CLAIMS

1. The use of a convertase inhibitor in the manufacture of a medicament for reducing scarring during the healing of wounds or reducing fibrosis in the treatment of fibrotic conditions wherein the medicament is topically applied to the site of a wound or fibrotic disorder.

2. The use according to claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is a furin inhibitor.

3. The use according to claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is a PACE-4 inhibitor.

4. The use according to claim 1 wherein the inhibitor is a serine protease inhibitor.

5. The use according to any preceding claim wherein the inhibitor is lipid soluble.

6. The use according to claim 3 wherein the inhibitor is a peptidyl chloroalkylketone having a peptide moiety which mimics at least one convertase enzyme cleavage site.

7. The use according to claim 4 wherein the inhibitor is decanoyl-RVKR-cmk.

8. The use according to any of claims 1 to 4 wherein the inhibitor is water soluble.

9. The use according to claim 8 wherein the inhibitor is hexa-arginine.

10. The use according to any preceding claim for treating wounds to inhibit or prevent scar formation.

11. The use according to claim 10 for inhibiting or preventing scarring of the eye, nervous tissue or intestines.

12. The use according to claim 10 for inhibiting or preventing dermal scarring.

13. The use according to claim 10 for inhibiting or preventing scarring following a burn.

14. The use according to any one of claims 1 to 9 for reducing fibrosis in the treatment of fibrotic conditions.

15. The use according to claim 14 wherein the fibrotic condition is a fibrotic disorder selected from glomerulonephritis, cirrhosis of the liver, fibrocytic disease, adhesions or restenosis.

16. A delivery system for use in a gene therapy technique, said delivery system comprising a DNA molecule encoding for a protein which inhibits convertase activity, said DNA molecule being capable of being transcribed to lead to the expression of said protein.

17. The use of a delivery system according to claim 16 in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of wounds or fibrosis.